

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) ~~The system of claim 1, further comprising~~ A virtual on-demand electronic book system, comprising:

a main memory located at a local library that stores electronic books for delivery to electronic book viewers of subscribers in the system via at least one of an internet network, a cable telephone network, and a broadcasting network, wherein the electronic books are received from at least one remote provider, and each of the electronic book viewers of the subscribers includes a local memory;

a queuing processor coupled to the main memory that receives electronic book orders from the subscribers and determines a queue location for an ordered electronic book, wherein each electronic book is divided into a plurality of sections;

first queues that temporarily store first sections of electronic books; and

second queues that temporarily store second sections of electronic books,

wherein the electronic books include order-on-demand electronic books and predetermined popular electronic books selected based on one of a request rate and a promotion level, the order-on-demand electronic books are received from the at least one remote provider upon requests from the subscribers and the popular electronic books are pre-loaded into at least one of the main memory and the local memory of the electronic book viewers of the subscribers,

wherein the first sections of electronic books are delivered to the subscribers without charge and the second sections of electronic books are delivered when an order for the electronic books is made by a subscriber,

wherein the first sections of the electronic books stored in the local memory of the electronic book viewer are deleted if the second sections of the electronic books are not requested by the subscriber after a predetermined period of time,

wherein the first queues further include a true on-demand first sections queue, a popular content first sections queue; and

wherein the second queues further include a true on-demand second sections queue and a popular content second sections queue, in which the true on-demand first section queue has a highest priority,

and wherein the virtual on-demand electronic book system further comprises a priority queue server coupled to the first and the second queues, wherein the priority queue server empties the first and the second queues based on a priority model.

4. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 3, wherein the priority model comprises instructions to

empty the on-demand first section queue and the popular content first section queue, the on-demand second sections queue and the popular content second sections queue in a round robin manner.

5. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 3, wherein the priority model includes a timing module, wherein the timing module determines a time an electronic book is stored in the first and the second queues and wherein when a maximum time is exceeded, the priority queue server transmits the electronic book out of order.

6. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 3, wherein the priority model comprises instructions to

determine a length of each queue; and

transmit an electronic book from a queue having a longest length.

7. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 3, wherein the priority model comprises instructions to

search queues for electronic book orders of a same electronic book or a same section of the ordered electronic book; and

broadcast completed electronic book orders simultaneously to the subscribers in the system.

8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 3, further comprising:

an Internet web site;

a web server coupled to the Internet web site;

a delivery server coupled to the web server; and

a transaction server coupled to the web server, wherein the queuing processor receives electronic book orders from the transaction server and the delivery server receives ordered electronic books from the queue priority server.

9. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3, further comprising:
a service time guarantee; and
a network coupling the processor to an associated data processing system, wherein the processor determines a pending service time, wherein if the pending service time exceeds the guarantee, the processor establishes a connection with the associated data processing system, and wherein the associated data processing system processes electronic book orders.

10. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3, further comprising:
an electronic book viewer comprising:
a receiver that receives electronic books,
a transmitter that transmits electronic book orders, and
a memory coupled to the receiver that stores the electronic books; and
a processor coupled to the receiver and the memory that controls processing on the electronic book viewer, wherein the receiver receives broadcasts of first sections of electronic books and stores the first sections in the memory.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein when a first section stored in the memory is accessed, the processor generates an order for a corresponding second section, and the transmitter transmits the order.

12. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein a first section of the electronic book includes a link, wherein when the link is accessed, the processor generates an order for a corresponding second section of the electronic book.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[1]] 3, wherein the electronic books comprise an electronic version of one or more of a printed book, a magazine, a catalog, a periodical and a newspaper.

14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[1]] 3, wherein specified electronic books are broadcast on a cyclical basis.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[1]] 3, wherein first sections of specified electronic books are broadcast on a cyclical basis.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the first sections to be broadcast are determined by reference to one of electronic books read data, demographic data, and subscriber preferences.

17. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[1]] 3, further comprising a virtual on-demand menu, the virtual on-demand menu broadcast with a broadcast of one of an electronic book and a first section of an electronic book, wherein the virtual on-demand menu lists electronic books available on the virtual on-demand electronic book system.

18. -79. (Canceled).